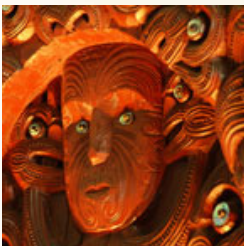




research
NEW ZEALAND

**Special Report on the
2006 Census of New Zealand's Population and Dwellings**





Summary

Every five years, Statistics New Zealand conducts the Census of Population and Dwellings. The most recent census was held on 7 March 2006. This report discusses three key trends for businesses and policymakers that emerged from analysis of Census data.

The Census shows that the New Zealand population is:

Growing: New Zealand's population is growing steadily, and has just had its largest between-Census increase in 30 years.

Ageing: The median age of the New Zealand population is increasing and there is another mini baby boom on its way.

Becoming increasingly diverse: The New Zealand population is increasingly diverse, both in its ethnic makeup and in its family structures.

Key Findings

Growing

The New Zealand population increased by 7.8 percent between 2001 and 2006 (growing from 3,737,277 people to 4,027,947 people). This was the largest percentage increase from census to census in 30 years. By 2041, projections (2004-based) show the population of New Zealand exceeding five million.

Table 1: Population by Census Year

	Population n	% change
1976	3,103,266	
1981	3,143,307	1.3
1986	3,263,283	3.8
1991	3,373,926	3.4
1996	3,618,303	7.2
2001	3,737,277	3.3
2006	4,027,947	7.8
Projection: 2016	4,448,000	10.4
Projection: 2041	5,001,000	12.4



Population change in the regions

All regions, except Southland (-0.1 percent), experienced increases in their population between 2001 and 2006. This contrasts with the previous five years (1996-2001) when six regions showed a decline.

The strongest population growth is in the country's northern and southern economic hubs (Auckland and Christchurch) and areas with marked life style benefits. The Auckland region shows the biggest population increase (12.4 percent), and population drift towards Auckland is expected to continue. However, the next three fastest growing areas are all in the South Island: Canterbury (8.4 percent), Tasman (7.9 percent) and Marlborough (7.6 percent), suggesting that an increasing number of people are choosing to live in rural areas of New Zealand.

Table 2: Population by Region and Census Year

	2001	2006		% change
	n	n	%	
North Island				
Northland	140,133	148,470	3.7	5.9
Auckland	1,158,891	1,303,068	32.4	12.4
Waikato	357,726	382,713	9.5	7.0
Bay of Plenty	239,412	257,379	6.4	7.5
Gisborne	43,974	44,499	1.1	1.2
Hawke's Bay	142,947	147,783	3.7	3.4
Taranaki	102,858	104,124	2.6	1.2
Manawatu-Wanganui	220,089	222,423	5.5	1.1
Wellington	423,768	448,959	11.1	5.9
Total North Island	2,829,798	3,059,418	76.0	8.1
South Island				
Tasman	41,352	44,625	1.1	7.9
Nelson	41,565	42,891	1.1	3.2
Marlborough	39,558	42,558	1.1	7.6
West Coast	30,300	31,326	0.8	3.4
Canterbury	481,431	521,832	13.0	8.4
Otago	181,539	193,800	4.8	6.8
Southland	91,005	90,876	2.3	-0.1
Total South Island	906,756	967,908	24.0	6.7
Area outside region	726	618	0.0	-14.9
Total New Zealand	3,737,277	4,027,947	100	7.8



Natural increase versus immigration

Both natural increase (an excess of births over deaths) and immigration have contributed to the increase in New Zealand's population.

Natural increase accounts for three-quarters of the increase. During the Census year, there had been 31,010 more births than deaths, which accounts for about three-quarters of the population growth. This is the highest natural increase in any year since 1994.

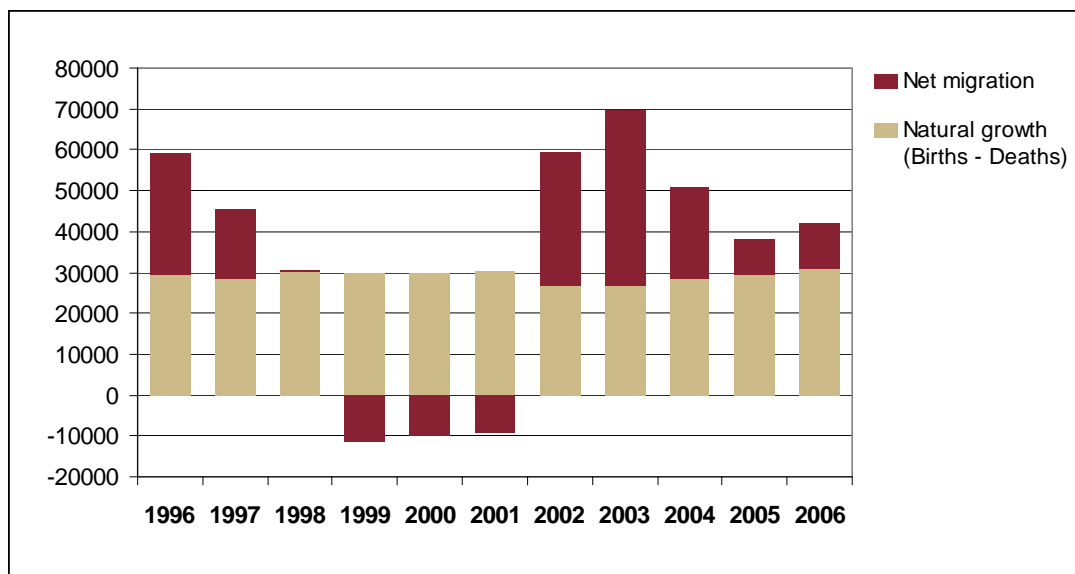
Immigration contributes the remaining one-quarter of the Census year's population growth. Another factor in the increasing number of live births, is that those migrating to New Zealand tend to be of working age and therefore have a greater likelihood of becoming parents than the general population.

In the longer-term, immigration will become the major factor in any population increase. New Zealand's birth rate is currently hovering around or just below the 2.1 births per woman required to maintain the population. By 2046, on recent trends, the number of deaths will start exceeding births and the growth rate will slow down (2004-based projection).

Table 3: Immigration Rate¹ and Natural Increase by Census Year

	Arrivals n	Departures n	Net migration n	Natural increase n
1996	81,965	52,459	29,506	29,364
1997	74,492	57,722	16,770	28,575
1998	61,246	60,794	452	30,266
1999	56,252	67,621	-11,369	29,923
2000	61,285	71,045	-9,760	29,973
2001	69,489	78,755	-9,266	30,010
2002	92,663	59,848	32,815	26,672
2003	97,250	54,733	42,517	26,852
2004	84,285	62,277	22,008	28,674
2005	79,139	70,546	8,593	29,371
2006	80,076	69,388	10,688	31,010

¹ Based on permanent and long-term migration.



Ageing

Trends show an ageing New Zealand population, with more elderly people and fewer children.

The number of people aged 65 years and over in the New Zealand population has increased from ten percent of the population in 1985 to 12.3 percent in 2006. This percentage is expected to reach 15.5 percent in ten years time, and 26 percent by 2051 (2004-based projection).

In contrast, the proportion of those aged under 15 years in New Zealand has fallen from 25 percent in 1985 to 21.5 percent in 2006 and is projected to fall to 18.9 percent by 2016 (2004-based projection).

Another indicator of New Zealand's ageing population is the increasing median age¹. The median age for the 1996 Census was 33.0 years. This increased to 34.8 for the 2001 Census and the to 35.9 years for the 2006 Census. Immigration has had the effect of slowing the increase in the median age as it tends to attract working age people and their children.

The Census shows that the average life expectancy gap between men and women is narrowing. From 1975-1977, the gap was 6.4 years, but for 2004-2006, this gap has narrowed to 4.1 years.

Currently, the largest age group in the population is made up of those aged 35 to 44 years. This bulge in the population is mirrored a generation later, with those aged ten to 19 years comprising the second largest population age group. This "baby blip" generation is making its presence felt in schools and tertiary institutions and will soon begin entering the workforce.

¹ Half the population is older and half are younger than this age.

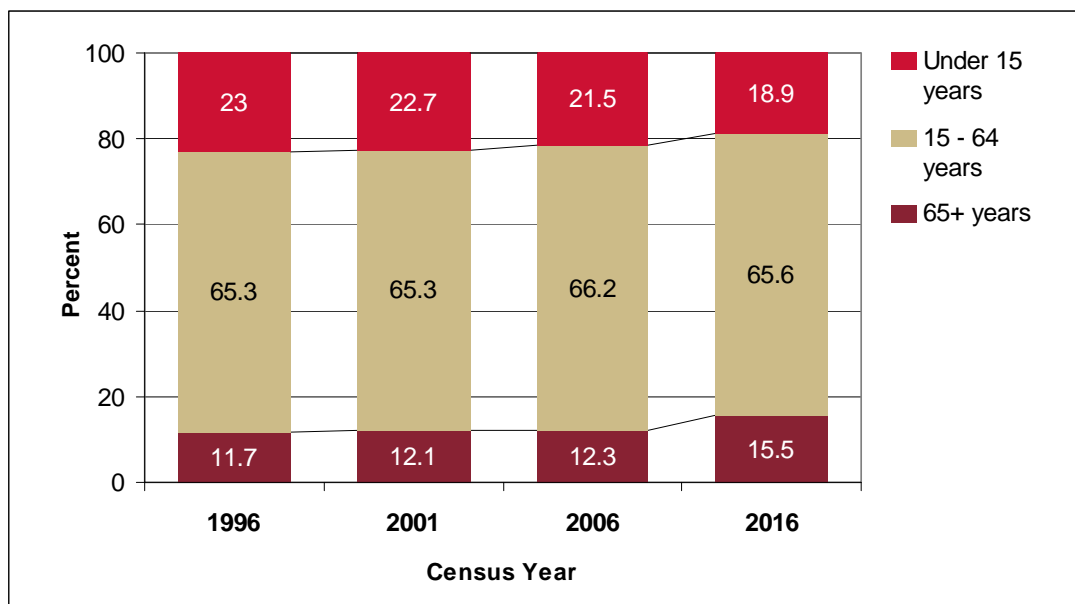


Table 4: Population by Age and Gender (2006)

	Total		Male		Female	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
0-4 years	275,079	6.8	140,382	7.1	134,697	6.5
5-9 years	286,488	7.1	146,532	7.5	139,956	6.8
10-14 years	306,009	7.6	157,113	8.0	148,896	7.2
15-19 years	300,198	7.5	152,439	7.8	147,762	7.2
20-24 years	270,978	6.7	135,087	6.9	135,894	6.6
25-29 years	242,439	6.0	117,216	6.0	125,223	6.1
30-34 years	276,561	6.9	130,884	6.7	145,677	7.1
35-39 years	301,554	7.5	143,001	7.3	158,550	7.7
40-44 years	313,698	7.8	150,900	7.7	162,798	7.9
45-49 years	293,421	7.3	143,052	7.3	150,369	7.3
50-54 years	252,729	6.3	124,308	6.3	128,421	6.2
55-59 years	233,571	5.8	115,224	5.9	118,347	5.7
60-64 years	179,613	4.5	88,335	4.5	91,278	4.4
65-69 years	148,548	3.7	72,114	3.7	76,434	3.7
70-74 years	116,934	2.9	55,878	2.8	61,056	3.0
75-79 years	101,214	2.5	46,356	2.4	54,855	2.7
80-84 years	72,237	1.8	29,124	1.5	43,113	2.1
85 years and over	56,667	1.4	17,667	0.9	39,000	1.9
Total	4,027,947	100	1,965,621	100	2,062,328	100
Median age	35.9		35.1		36.7	

Table 5: Age Group by Census Year

	1996		2001		2006		Projection: 2016	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Under 15 years	832,080	23.0	847,740	22.7	867,573	21.5	842,000	18.9
15-64 years	2,363,553	65.3	2,439,111	65.3	2,664,768	66.2	2,916,000	65.6
65 years and over	422,667	11.7	450,426	12.1	495,603	12.3	690,000	15.5
Total	3,618,303	100	3,737,277	100	4,027,947	100	4,448,000	100
Median age	33.0		34.8		35.9		39.1	



Becoming more diverse

Ethnicity

The ethnic make-up of the New Zealand population is increasingly diverse.

Census results show that 10.4 percent of people identify with more than one ethnic group, up from nine percent in 2001.

Europeans remain the largest ethnic group at 67.6 percent, followed by Māori, at 14.6 percent of the population. The percentage of people who identify themselves as a New Zealander (available as an option for the first time in the 2006 Census) is 11.1 percent, making it the third largest ethnic group. Of those who choose New Zealander, 12.9 percent of these also identify with one or more ethnic groups.

A significant factor in this increased diversity is a substantial growth in Asian peoples. In 1996, Asian peoples made up five percent of the New Zealand population whereas in the 2006 Census this increased to 9.2 percent. Asian peoples now make up a larger proportion of the population than do Pacific peoples (6.9 percent).

However, ethnic diversity varies around the country. Auckland is the most ethnically diverse region, with its percentage of Asian peoples (18.9 percent) being twice that for the general New Zealand population, and more people identifying themselves as Pacific peoples than elsewhere in the country (14.4 percent).



Table 6: Ethnic Group (Total Responses)¹² by Census Year

	1996		2001		2006	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
European	2,879,085	83.1	2,871,432	80.1	2,609,592	67.6
Māori	523,371	15.1	526,281	14.7	565,329	14.6
Pacific peoples	202,233	5.8	231,801	6.5	265,974	6.9
Asian	173,502	5.0	238,176	6.6	354,552	9.2
MELAA ³	*	*	*	*	34,743	0.9
Other ethnicity						
New Zealander	*	*	*	*	429,429	11.1
Other 'other' ethnicity	16,422	0.5	24,993	0.7	1,491	0.0
Total ⁴	16,422	0.5	24,993	0.7	430,881	11.2
Total people	3,466,587	100	3,586,731	100	3,860,163	100

¹ Changes to the form of the ethnicity question used in the 1996 Census have resulted in some data that is not consistent between 1996, 2001 and 2006.

² Includes all of the people who stated each ethnic group, whether as their only ethnic group or as one of several ethnic groups. ^{Where} a person reported more than one ethnic group, they have been counted in each applicable group.

³ MELAA = Middle Eastern, Latin American and African. This is a new category introduced for the 2006 Census.

Previously, 'MELAA' responses were counted to the 'Other ethnicity' category.

⁴ In 1996 and 2001 'Total Other Ethnicity' included MELAA.

* Figure not available.

Birthplace

More than a fifth of the country (22.9 percent) was born overseas, compared with 19.5 percent in 2001 and 17.5 percent in 1996. England is still the most common overseas birthplace, with 23 percent of overseas-born people living in New Zealand being born there. Of the ten most common overseas birthplaces, about 50 percent are non-English speaking countries.

Table 7: Most common overseas birthplaces of people living in New Zealand (2006)

Birthplace	Total	
	n	%
England	202,401	23.0
People's Republic of China	78,117	8.9
Australia	62,742	7.1
Samoa	50,649	5.8
India	43,344	4.9
South Africa	41,676	4.7
Fiji	37,746	4.3
Scotland	29,016	3.3
Republic of Korea	28,806	3.3
Netherlands	22,101	2.5
Total born overseas	879,543	65.3



Households

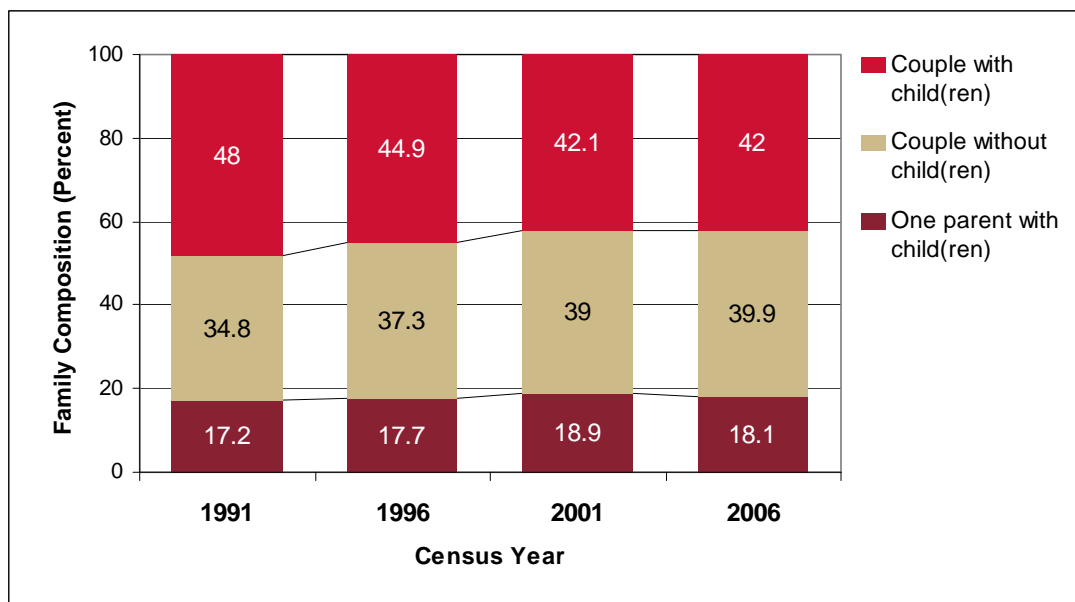
The structure of families continues to change.

The proportion of one-parent families and couples without children are increasing, whereas the proportion of couples with children is decreasing. One-parent families make up 18.1 percent of all the families living in New Zealand. Forty-two percent are couples with children and 39.9 percent are couples without children.

The average number of people living in each household is 2.7. This has declined from 1966 when the average number was 3.5 but has remained constant since 1966. Another important trend is the increasing number of single-person households, which has risen from 307,635 in 2001 to 328,302.

Table 8: Family Type by Census Year

	1991		1996		2001		2006	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Couple without child(ren)	307,029	34.8	354,588	37.3	376,905	39.0	425,973	39.9
Couple with child(ren)	423,813	48.0	426,567	44.9	407,793	42.1	447,894	42.0
One parent with child(ren)	151,755	17.2	168,258	17.7	182,919	18.9	193,635	18.1
Total	882,597	100	949,410	100	967,614	100	1,067,502	100



Other key family and household trends include the following:

A decreasing rate of marriage, from 16.5 per 1,000 in 1996 to 13.5 per 1,000 in 2006. This decrease is due to a number of factors including an increase in de facto relationships and the trend of getting married at a later age.



There are fewer men than women in the adult population (aged over 19), but more males than females in the younger population (19 years and under).

Home ownership in New Zealand has been decreasing since 1991, although it is still the most common tenure type. The most recent census shows that 66.9 percent of households are owned by the usual residents compared with 73.8 percent in 1991. The percentage of households that are not owned by the usual residents is 33.1 percent, with 85.9 percent of them being rented out.

Table 9: Tenure of Household by Census Year

	1996		2001		2006	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Dwellings owned or partly owned by usual resident(s)	860,760	70.7	868,656	67.8	743,952	54.5
Dwellings not owned by usual resident(s)	357,063	29.3	412,200	32.2	451,965	33.1
Dwellings held in a family trust by usual resident(s)	*	*	*	*	167,922	12.3
Total	1,217,823	100	1,280,856	100	1,363,839	100

Income, work and living standards

The proportion of the New Zealand population (aged 15 years and over) who are currently working is 62.8 percent. Almost half of the population are working full-time (48.4 percent) and 14.4 percent are working part-time (fewer than 30 hours per week).

The median annual personal income from all sources for employed people aged 15 years and over is \$33,700. Just over 24 percent of working New Zealanders are earning more than \$50,000 per year.

Table 10: Annual personal income by employment and labour force status (2006)

Total Personal Income	Employed		Unemployed		Not in labour force*	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
\$5,000 or less	134,076	6.8	36,519	34.3	212,970	22.1
\$5,001 - \$10,000	103,017	5.2	16,131	15.1	107,649	11.2
\$10,001 - \$20,000	260,202	13.1	23,307	21.9	332,472	34.6
\$20,001 - \$30,000	332,016	16.7	9,399	8.8	93,543	9.7
\$30,001 - \$50,000	602,064	30.3	5,187	4.9	59,121	6.1
\$50,001 or more	482,901	24.3	2,019	1.9	26,877	2.8
Not stated	71,502	3.6	13,932	13.1	129,150	13.4
Total	1,985,775	100	106,497	100	961,788	100
Median income	\$33,700		\$8,000		\$12,200	

*People not in the labour force are those aged 15 years and above who are not employed or unemployed (e.g. people who are retired or are studying).



The type of work that New Zealanders are doing is changing. The most common occupational group recorded by the Census is 'professionals', whose number has now risen from 239,616 in 2001 to 374,328. In 2001, most of the working population reported that they were in the 'service and sales workers' group.

The gap between the 'rich' and the 'poor' seems to be widening, with increasing inequalities in income and living standards. Both income and living standards have increased but the increases have been greater for those people in high and medium income percentiles than low-income percentiles.

The living standards of people living in New Zealand are generally good, when measured using the Economic Living Standard Index (ELSI)². This scale shows that three-quarters of the New Zealand population have living standards that are classified as 'comfortable' or 'good'. However, the same study found that, over time, there has been a widening of the gap between those with high and low living standards. This widening is mainly due to the small increase in the number of people facing 'severe hardship', which rose from five percent in 2001 to eight percent in 2004.

The Household Economic Survey (2003/04)³ found that the percentage of households spending over thirty percent of their income on housing was rising, reflecting the ongoing increase in property values. Between 1987/88 and 2000/01, home ownership spending increased from 11 percent to 24 percent.

Table 11: Average weekly household expenditure between 2000/01 and 2003/04 by expenditure group

	2000/01	2003/04	% change
	\$	\$	
Food	126	143	13
Housing	182	217	19.1
Household operation	98	112	14.6
Apparel	25	31	23.3
Transportation	122	142	16.4
Other goods	86	99	15.3
Other services	127	146	14.9
Total expenditure	765	888	16.1

² Based on what people consume and own. Jensen, J, Krishnan, V, Hodgson, R, Sathiyandra, S, Templeton, R, Jones, D, Goldstein-Hawes, R and Beynon, P (2004) *New Zealand Living Standards 2004*. Wellington: Ministry of Social Development.

³ Statistics New Zealand (2004) *Household Economic Survey*. Wellington: Statistics New Zealand.



Appendix A: Appendix A: Tables – ethnic group by region

Table 12: Ethnic Group¹ by North Island Region (2006)

	Total people		Northland		Auckland		Waikato		Bay of Plenty		Gisborne		Hawke's Bay		Taranaki		Manawatu-Wanganui		Wellington	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
European	2,609,589	67.6	93,351	68.0	698,622	56.5	257,322	70.4	165,012	67.1	22,677	54.3	22,677	54.3	77,166	77.0	157,341	73.0	302,973	69.8
Māori	565,329	14.6	43,527	31.7	137,133	11.1	76,572	21.0	67,662	27.5	19,758	47.3	19,758	47.3	15,798	15.8	42,288	19.6	55,434	12.8
Pacific Peoples	265,974	6.9	3,702	2.7	177,936	14.4	11,796	3.2	6,465	2.6	1,299	3.1	1,299	3.1	1,368	1.4	5,892	2.7	34,752	8.0
Asian	354,552	9.2	2,580	1.9	234,222	18.9	18,204	5.0	7,824	3.2	741	1.8	741	1.8	2,154	2.1	8,121	3.8	36,477	8.4
Middle Eastern/ Latin American/ African	34,746	0.9	348	0.3	18,555	1.5	2,427	0.7	783	0.3	87	0.2	87	0.2	225	0.2	1,095	0.5	5,346	1.2
Total Other Ethnicity	430,881	11.2	14,739	10.7	99,897	8.1	41,964	11.5	30,123	12.3	3,864	9.2	3,864	9.2	13,629	13.6	26,790	12.4	47,352	10.9
Total	3,860,163	100	137,304	100	1,237,239	100	365,292	100	245,772	100	41,796	100	41,796	100	100,263	100	215,502	100	434,034	100

Total may exceed 100% due to multiple response.

¹ Includes all of the people who stated each ethnic group, whether as their only ethnic group or as one of several ethnic groups. Where a person reported more than one ethnic group, they have been counted once in each applicable group.

Table 13: Ethnic Group¹ by South Island Region (2006)

	Total people		West Coast		Canterbury		Otago		Southland		Tasman		Nelson		Marlborough	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
European	2,609,589	67.6	24,021	79.6	393,222	77.4	148,974	79.6	69,555	78.6	35,715	82.7	33,507	80.4	32,022	78.4
Māori	565,329	14.6	2,916	9.7	36,669	7.2	12,273	6.6	10,422	11.8	3,063	7.1	3,615	8.7	4,275	10.5
Pacific Peoples	265,974	6.9	282	0.9	10,926	2.2	3,141	1.7	1,461	1.7	336	0.8	711	1.7	642	1.6
Asian	354,552	9.2	345	1.1	29,172	5.7	7,779	4.2	1,149	1.3	567	1.3	1,065	2.6	639	1.6
Middle Eastern/ Latin American/ African	34,746	0.9	69	0.2	3,363	0.7	1,284	0.7	144	0.2	108	0.3	150	0.4	192	0.5
Total Other Ethnicity	430,881	11.2	5,043	16.7	70,254	13.8	26,343	14.1	13,878	15.7	6,348	14.7	5,850	14.0	6,633	16.2
Total	3,860,163	100	30,162	100	508,182	100	187,179	100	88,440	100	43,200	100	41,679	100	40,836	100

Total may exceed 100% due to multiple response.

¹ Includes all of the people who stated each ethnic group, whether as their only ethnic group or as one of several ethnic groups. Where a person reported more than one ethnic group, they have been counted once in each applicable group.